VZCZCXRO4734 OO RUEHWEB OO RUEHWEB
DE RUEHTRO #0208/01 0681608
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O P 091608Z MAR 09
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4582 TO RUBHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE RUBHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE RHEHAAA/NSC WASHINGTON DC RHEHAAA/NSC WASHINGTON DC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC RHMFISS/CDR USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 5108

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 05 TRIPOLI 000208

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/MAG, INR/NESA
E.O. 12958: DECL: 3/4/2019
TAGS: PGOV PREL KCOR ECON MARR MASS PHUM PINR LY
SUBJECT: LIBYA'S SUCCESSION MUDDLED AS THE AL-QADHAFI CHILDREN CONDUCT INTERNECINE WARFARE
REF: A) 08 TRIPOLI 564, B) 08 TRIPOLI 592, C) TRIPOLI 198, D) 08 TRIPOLI 870 , E) 08 TRIPOLI 679, F) 08 TRIPOLI 494, G) TRIPOLI 196, H) TRIPOLI

CLASSIFIED BY: Gene A. Cretz, Ambassador, U.S. Embassy - Tripoli, U.S. Dept of State. REASON: 1.4 (b), (d) 1. (C) Summary: A series of events s

xxxxxxxxxx

- 13. (C) XXXXXXXXXXX the arrest of Hannibal al-Qadhafi, a son of Muammar al-Qadhafi, in Geneva in mid-July (ref B subsequent) and a visit to Rc ... PROMPT AN AL-OADHAFI FAMILY MEETING
- 14. (C) The upshot of Muatassim's solicitation of funds, Hannibal's arrest and Saadi's jaunt was an al-Qadhafi family meeting in mid-August. Al TRIPOLI 00000208 002 OF 005

instead assign his daughter, Aisha al-Qadhafi, the task of monitoring the activities of ne'er-do-wells Saadi, Hannibal and Saif al-Arab. (Note:

- 15. XXXXXXXXXXX have told us that Aisha played a strong role in urging a hardline Libyan position with respect to the Swiss-Libyan contretemps INCREASED TENSION BETWEEN SAIF AL-ISLAM AND MUATASSIM
- 16. (C) Against that backdrop of tension, competition between Saif al-Islam, whom most still regard as the heir-apparent, and Muatassim, whose
- 17. (C) Saif al-Islam's highly-publicized visit to the U.S. last November-December exacerbated tension with his siblings, particularly Muatassi
- 18. (C) Recent events have fueled speculation that inter-sibling rivalries, and those of the more conservative regime elements they represent, TRIPOLI 00000208 004 OF 005
- 19. (C) XXXXXXXXXXX
- 1 XXXXXXXXXXX
- 111. (C) Comment: While internecine strife is nothing new for the famously fractious al-Qadhafi family, the recent escalation of tension betwee TRIPOLI 00000208 005 OF 005

and as a threat to conservative regime elements, many of whom personally played a part in the most serious transgressions of the late 1970's an 112. (C) Comment (continued): Persistent rumors about Muammar al-Oadhafi's declining health have lent particular urgency to questions about suc